

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification at page 1, lines 18-32, as follows:

However, information stored in non-volatile devices may be intentionally or unintentionally changed, corrupted, or deleted. That is, environmental conditions (static, shock, etc.), intermittent device failures, or authorized or unauthorized access by a user and/or application may cause the information stored in the non-volatile device to be altered or deleted. For example, in a typical computer system a CMOS storage device stores information pertinent to central processing unit (CPU) ~~an and~~ chipset configurations, errata, FWH security, etc. Because typical non-volatile storage devices lack hardware level security support, the information stored therein may be accessed and/or modified by users or applications. This creates the risk that such changes may hinder or prevent the proper operation of systems which rely on such information.